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Federal hotline launched on Arizona immigrant checks

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US Justice Department has launched a hotline to report any violations after the Supreme Court upheld a provision requiring Arizona police to check the immigration status of people they stop.

The hotline -- 1-855-353-1010 and email address SB1070@usdoj.gov -- was set up a day after the Supreme Court unanimously backed Arizona's "show me your papers" policy but two provisions of the state's immigration law that would have allowed local police to arrest people for federal immigration violations.

The Arizona law has aroused intense controversy because of provision 2(B), which requires police to demand proof of citizenship of anyone they stop and suspect of being an illegal alien, even without probable cause.

In a victory for Obama's Republicans opponents, the Supreme Court justices unanimously refused to strike down the key clause, saying it was unclear, before the law's actual implementation, that it raised constitutional concerns.



AFP photo shows Tanya Hernandez, 4, holding a sign as she attends a rally and a news conference by the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles regarding the U.S. Supreme Court's decision on the Arizona immigration law at Los Angeles City Hall yesterday. (AFP)

Obama's so far unfulfilled 2008 vow to bring more than 10 million illegal immigrants out of the shadows, which is opposed by conservatives, is emerging as a key issue in the 2012 election as both sides court vital Hispanic voters.

Immigration officials now has Passport recognition expertise



Since June 4th, all employees of the Aruba Immigration Service have been following an extensive course organized by the Ministry of Justice, the Department of Education and the Royal Dutch Marines, along with the Police Force. The four week program provides in-depth training in documentation to review information they already know and to bring them up to date on new information specifically relating to the falsification of passports.

At the end of each segment of the course they took an exam. The government indicated that the purpose of the training program is to make sure that each employee obtains a certificate to ensure that everyone understood the information and is fully capable to put it into practice.

The technology continues to evolve in leaps and bounds and this makes it necessary for our Immigration Service to be fully up to date with all the new developments. The Minister of Justice mentioned too, that the different courses will also contribute to the future promotion and advancement of each employee and is

especially necessary for those employees who came to the department from other government departments.

Most of the courses being offered have to do with detecting trends and developments originating outside of Aruba and that Aruba are confronted with almost daily. The Minister informed the group that the government is working on acquiring the different technical equipment needed to contribute to a more professional service in all areas of their work.

Interim Chief of the Immigration Service congratulated everyone for their dedication

to the course they are finalizing. He applauded the fact that there is growing expertise on Aruba in all the critical areas, and that all employees are afforded the opportunity to gain this expertise through these courses.

On the other hand, Willy Mennen, on behalf of the Royal Dutch Marines, said that they are always ready and willing to lend a hand whenever this is necessary both to the Police Force and to the Immigration Service. He too congratulated the team of employees for their excellent cooperation and good work.

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It is almost vacation time ... ATA Caracas and AVAVIT celebrate 100 years on Aruba

ORANJESTAD -- With the vacation season quickly approaching, many are preparing to pack their bags and travel abroad for that long awaited change of pace and rest. This year, our telephone company, SETAR, is warning all travelers to pay attention to the high cost of roaming charges when they arrive at their destinations abroad. Many do not realize that using a cellular abroad can cause extra charges on their bill at the end of the month. Minutes, SMS and the use of data in another country are not included in the SETAR package that local users have.

When using "wireless roaming" in another country you are actually using the services of a company other than the one for which you have a contract. SETAR advises her clients the moment they arrive in a new destination that roaming charges are not covered in their subscription. Using roaming will incur extra charges on your telephone bill.

Roaming is applicable to regular calls, SMS and data. Every client should be aware of the extra charges that roaming will bring.

If a SETAR client updates software on their cellular, makes use of apps, opens face-

book, uses What's Up, browses or receives email while abroad, they are using data roaming. And, the charges for this service can be very high.

Susy Maduro, Corporate Communications Manager of SETAR, explained: "...the moment I get off a plane, I check my cell to see if I am roaming. The fee for international roaming by the minute varies from country to country. So, if you want to save money, make sure that the roaming feature on your cell is deactivated or find some other way to reduce your expense. Maduro advises SETAR's clients to make use, instead, of the WiFi services provided by most hotels when making contact abroad from their new destination.

Susy Maduro emphasized that the BlackBerry Protect, for example, should be deactivated on all BB Smartphones, because it is a special RIM feature to store information. Depending on the particular configuration, this feature works automatically and will cause the user extra for roaming because it is not hooked up to the local network.

For more information regarding roaming, please consult SETAR at www.setar.aw.



The 16th anniversary of 'Asociacion Venezolana de Agente de Viaje y Turismo' (AVAVIT) and the Caracas office of Aruba Tourism Association's 40th year of marketing in Venezuela were celebrated together on Aruba.

As part of the marketing plan for Venezuela, ATA Caracas approached AVAVIT to organize a mega FAM trip to celebrate their anniversaries together on Aruba. FAM is an abbreviation that is used to describe travel agent groups visiting Aruba to get to know and familiarize themselves of the Aruba product. For this occasion AVAVIT succeeded in bringing a group of 107 Travel Agents to spend an entire weekend here. It was for those already familiar with Aruba a refreshing time of reminiscing, and for those who never before visited, a time of getting to know Aruba and what we have to offer the Venezuelan visitor.

During their stay on the island, the group was transported by Fofoti Tours and De Palm Tours. A welcome reception replete with cocktails was held at the Radisson Aruba Resort. The next day they had breakfast at the Divi Aruba Beach Resort's El Faro



Blanco, which was followed by a bus trip on the Kukookunuku busses. This took them later to the De Palm Island for lunch.

The group also had breakfast at MooMba, and a catamaran trip, courtesy of Red Sail Sport, Pelican and Palm Pleasure. The fabulous and festive closing event took place at the Tierra Del Sol. Here representatives of the Ministry of Tourism, Sanju Luidens and Sue Ann Lee presented the CEO of AVAVIT, Mrs. Marilucy Beltran, an Elvis Tromp painting of Aruba. Aruba expressed gratitude for the group's faithful promotion of Aruba in Venezuela (each

agency has a lovely poster of Aruba on display in their show cases), and congratulations for their 60th anniversary.

The group members stayed at the following hotels: the Renaissance Aruba Beach Resort, Divi Aruba Resort, Westin Aruba, Brickel Bay Resort and the Aruba Marriott Beach Resort. The extensive program was prepared by representatives of ATA, Amayra Boekhoudt and Jasmin Maduro together with ATA Caracas and AVAVIT.

ATA says..."thanks" to every one of their partners for their contribution and cooperation which made this visit of AVAVIT such a success!

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Tuesday Daily Raffle \$ 500 - BlackJack Tournament

Wednesday Daily Raffle \$ 500 - Cool Casino - LADIES NIGHT

Thursday Daily Raffle \$ 500 Earn DOUBLE POINTS

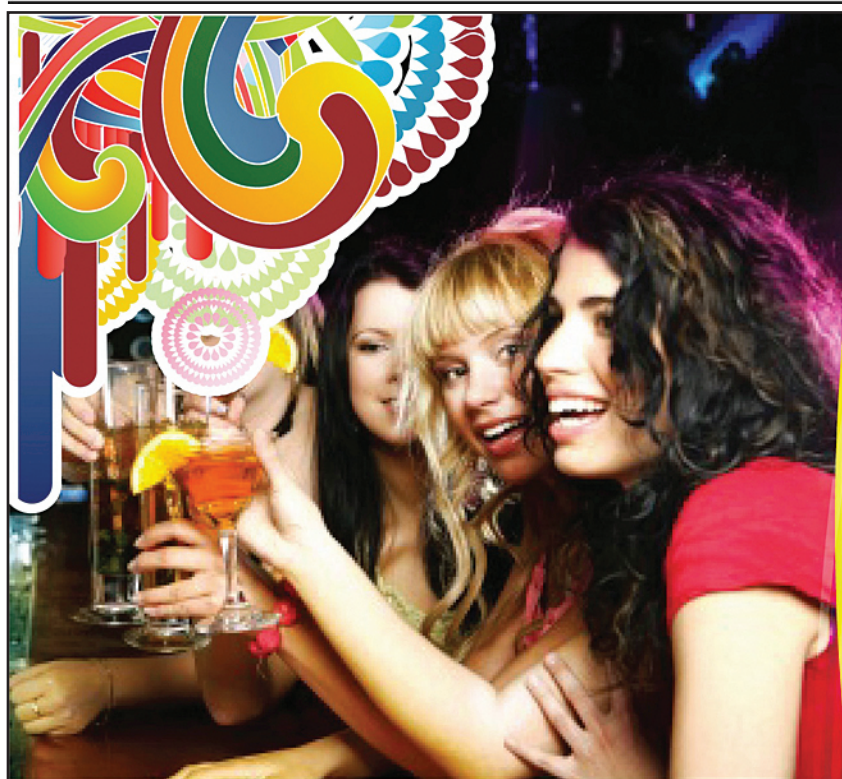
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LADIES NIGHT



The Wit & Wisdom of Ray Liotta

One of the greatest aspects of the Aruba International Film Festival is for fans of movie industry celebrities to meet their idols and gain some insights into the real individuals behind their "play pretend" personas seen on the screen. This is exactly how Ray Liotta, who provided a hilarious and provocative "In Conversation With" session on Monday, June 25, describes his art, as grown-ups "playing pretend," — for the world's entertainment.

In Liotta's case, the man behind the role-playing was candid and earnest in his responses to some in-depth questioning, demonstrating a sly wit that would suddenly punctuate a serious moment, lightening the mood and dissolving the audience with hilarity. The able moderator for the session was journalist Brandon Harris, who is also the director of the AIFF 2012 featured film "Redlegs."

It is likely few recall Ray Liotta started his career as a very nice guy during a 3-year stint on a the soap opera, "Another World," as his tough-guy image in movies was established early on by his effective portrayal of a violent, psycho-

pathic ex-husband named, coincidentally, Ray, in Jonathan Demme's "Something Wild." "When I got my first big part in "Something Wild," I was not thinking about being a star; I only wanted to be an actor in movies" he explained.

He revealed he was motivated to take drama classes at University of Miami, "because I hated Math and History" and that he didn't even immediately fall in love with acting. He went with a friend signing a contract to do one of the "Jaws" sequels, and her agent offered him a commercial. "It snowballed; I had an agent and manager within a week, and then six months later I got into a soap opera."

Underlining his philosophy of acting being all about "playing pretend," he was very open about the fact that during the filming of what is likely his most famous role, Henry Hill in Martin Scorsese's "Goodfellas," he was going through the emotional trial of losing his mother to cancer, regularly traveling back and forth to be at her bedside until she died midway through the film being completed.



Ray Liotta

Liotta explained how he had actively pursued that role, meeting and chatting with Scorsese to be told "the studio wanted anyone but me;" with only 3 movies under his belt he was still sort of new. He believed it was an encounter with the director's body guards, where he showed more of his natural, polite personality, which convinced Scorsese he would right for the role, providing the insight that Liotta wasn't really the character he portrayed in "Something

Wild."

He also explained that the constant frustration of actors wanting to play roles they know will truly allow them to practice their craft and display their talent is not only reserved for those who have not reached superstardom. It never stops; event the biggest names are competing and lobbying for plum parts but will lose them to someone who the studio thinks "is right for the role and will be good box office."

Surprisingly, in the 22 years since "Goodfellas" was released, Liotta revealed he had never watched the picture until attending the special screening here on Aruba at the AIFF. He considers it the highest praise that his daughter, attending the festival with him, was truly impressed, "as she is the first one to tell me "Dad that was really crap."

He admitted to some likely bad judgment in his career, such as turning down a role in Tim Burton's "Batman." "Who was doing superhero movies then? When they said "Batman" as I movie, I was thinking I am a serious actor; "Batman?" how stupid is that?

When you see what playing a superhero has done for actors like Robert Downy, Jr.... me thinking I was a serious actor was probably pretty stupid."

Liotta admitted to taking a number of parts over the years to just pay the bills; roles of which he is not particularly proud, much of it because the director's had no real vision of where they wanted to take the picture, and the scripts, which he feels are the backbone of the film, were lackluster. After giving some deep thought to the question, "Did any of these pleasantly surprise you and turn out much better than you thought they would," he gave a definitive "NO"...initially I turned a lot of stuff down, and after awhile you have to do things to survive, and it is always a balance. I am still working it out now, it never ends; it never stops."

As to why people perceive him totally opposed to the person he is, he considers that in the most films "the audience always remembers the bad guys, those are the ones who always make the impression... and I do say "f**k a lot."

Continued on page 5



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A new diversion in at Paseo Herencia Mall: "Enchanted Aruba"



Acrobatic dance performed to famous concert violinist



Beautiful costumes



Dinner theater has returned to Aruba with the opening of "Enchanted Aruba" on Friday, June 22, located on the second level of the Paseo Herencia Mall in Palm Beach. The fantastic facility in the mall's mezzanine next to the cinemas was specifically constructed to be such a venue, and the new variety show "Enchanted Aruba" makes the most of the superb sound system and high ceilings for over an hour of singers, dancers, tumblers and some impressive aerial performances.



Producers Jorge di Paolo and John Stuart are proud of their new production and look forward to welcoming any seeking an appealing show and an entertaining way to kill an evening. Jorge, known in Las Vegas as "Mr. Entertainment," is no stranger to Aruba. He lived here as an entertainer and producer in the 80's starring in "Breakdance Fever" and performing a Gaucho act. During the premiere of the new show, he demonstrated some of that same elegant style by taking to the stage for a show-stopping tango with his daughter. John Stuart is the creator of the longest running Las Vegas show at the Imperial Palace, "Legends in Concert," still wel-

coming appreciative audiences after 30 years.

"Enchanted Aruba" is a mélange of entertaining acts and dramatically staged and costumed dance numbers blended with a breathtaking parade of acrobatic expertise by the famed Ritmo Cubano troupe. Paula Ridderstap, a Portuguese recording artist relocated to Aruba, provides appealing vocals, and Angela Flores, first violinist of the Maracaibo Philharmonic Orchestra, demonstrates her virtuosity accompanied by a lovely, romantic duet dance and acrobatics.

The program features renowned contortionist Hayley

Kent, a Cirque du Soleil alumnus, directly from Las Vegas and Los Latin Cowboys Live, returning to the stage, stronger than ever, mixing great humor, audience participation and compelling rhythms.

"Enchanted Aruba" features a dinner show for \$59.95, with children under 12, \$44.95. For the show only is \$44.95, children's price: \$29.95; VIP Seating with souvenir poster & picture: \$69.95. For reservations call: 592-4466 or visit their website: <http://enchantedaruba.com/> Visit their Facebook page to keep up on the latest enchanted news.

by Rosalie Klein

A passionate new collection from renowned singer "El Duque," now available on CD

Popular balladeer Victor Samuel, known throughout the region as "El Duque," recently presented his new CD during a special session of the popular local morning program, "Nos Mianta," with host Farita Luidens. It is titled "Passion," and is comprised of 16 of the most beloved romantic ballads of the region, in "El Duque's" rich baritone. One track, "Aruba" has already spend 2 weeks on the Aruba Top Twenty Hit Parade with Johnny Habibe, DJ at HIT 94.FM.

A dynamic and charismatic performer, Victor Samuel is originally from Venezuela, but has made Aruba his home for the past 19 years. For more than 25 years he has been gracing stages in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. He has performed with such famous names as Jose Jose, Raphael, Padu Del Caribe, El Puma, Julio Iglesias, Daniel Santos, and most recently, with Paloma San Basilio in Caracas. His career spanned conti-



nents during numerous promotional concerts for his other 5 CD's.

Victor's new release, "Passion," is available at Music Box and CD's and More as well as directly by calling 566-7275 or 565-3265. Follow him on Facebook: El Duque, Victor Samuel, or enjoy him on Youtube. He can also be contact via e-mail: elduquevictor-samuel@gmail.com



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Ray Liotta

Continued from page 3

When asked what he would still like to do with his career, his immediate reaction was "I would like to be able to kiss a woman without having to choke her," but revealed he would love, above all, to be in a Woody Allen movie. "I have had the good fortune to work with many wonderful actors I admire, but I believe if a part was right for me I could do comedy very well; my daughter thinks I am really funny." As an afterthought, he added,

Liotta's response to what separates the great directors he has worked with from the hacks, somewhat summed up the industry. "The biggest thing about working with directors at that level is they are so, so excited and committed to a make believe situation and it is exhilarating. To work with somebody who wants to play pretend...to sit with someone like Marty (Scorsese) and feel his energy...the passion they have in doing it, is contagious. The better the director...if you listen or read any of their interviews, there is a passion, about make believe, and that is the thing the biggest ones have...that real excitement about telling a make-believe story."

by Rosalie Klein

Art of Living Foundation, Aruba presented a wonderful evening of 'Music, Mind & Meditation



Niti & Aditya with Mary

Art of Living Foundation, Aruba recently presented Mary Somerville, a very talented harpist from Scotland, for an evening of Music, Mind and Meditation. Beginning her musical training at the age of five, Mary started playing the Scottish harp at the age of nine.

Mary is a full time volunteer of the Art of Living Foundation, a non profit, humanitarian organization. With her musical concerts, Mary contributes towards the foundation's goal of a violence free, stress free society

to attain World Peace. She recently performed an instrumental piece with a local steel pan musician at the "I Meditate St. Maarten" Inter-cultural peace event in the Caribbean. She will also be performing in other Caribbean islands like Barbados and Jamaica.

During her visit to Aruba, Mary also played music for the clients of Fundacion Kibrahacha, FAVI & SABA.

At the Hyatt Aruba Ballroom, Mary played an excellent relaxing, meditative music while explaining to us

the connection between mind, music and the seven Chakras in our body.

Art of Living Foundation Aruba thanks all those who took the chance to hear the concert and will keep up such efforts for the benefit of our local community.

Attached pictures show the ambience during the evening.



Local Musicians with Mary

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

'Fierce clashes' near Damascus as 116 killed in Syria: NGO



BEIRUT (AFP) - Rebel forces and Syrian army units engaged in deadly combat around elite Republican Guard posts in the suburbs of Damascus on Tuesday, as 116 people were killed across the country, a monitoring group said.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the death toll consisted of 68 civilians, 41 soldiers and seven rebels.

"Violent clashes are taking place around positions of the Republican Guard in Qudsaya and Al-Hama," eight kilometres (five miles) from central Damascus, the head of the Ob-

servatory, Rami Abdel Rahman, told AFP.

Twenty-eight people were killed in and around the capital, including 15 people in Al-Hama and 11 in Qudsaya during shelling by regime troops.

"This is the first time that the regime uses artillery in fighting so close to the capital," Abdel Rahman said.

Abu Omar, a spokesman for activists in the Damascus region, told AFP via Skype that "all communication has been cut off in and around Al-Hama and Qudsaya."

The official SANA news agency said, meanwhile, that government forces clashed with "armed terrorist groups" in Al-Hama.

"The armed groups attacked citizens and law enforcement forces and blocked the Old Beirut road to use it as a smuggling route for weapons," SANA said.

Weapons were also seized, including "rocket-propelled grenade launchers, sniper rifles, machine guns and a large amount of ammunition," the agency added.

The Syrian army also faced heavy losses on Tuesday with at least 41 soldiers killed in fierce fighting with rebels in various parts of the country.

On Monday, 95 people were killed, including 61 civilians, as the army pounded rebel strongholds and other towns and cities.

According to Observatory, the government's suppression of an anti-regime revolt since March 2011 has cost more than 15,000 lives.

Girl's capture highlights FARC's use of minors

BOGOTA (AFP) - The capture of a wounded girl in camouflage paint and with explosives provided by FARC guerrillas has raised fears that Colombia's half century old conflict may be taking an ominous new turn.

While the leftist guerrilla group has long been accused of recruiting minors to its ranks, a video aired this week by the Colombian police appeared to show for the first time they are now being used in combat operations rather than in support roles.

Taken in the province of Norte de Santander, the images shows a wounded girl and the body of a boy who were captured after detonating explosives that killed seven police in a passing patrol.

The girl is shown with a leg wound, her half-naked body covered in green paint, a technique used by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia to hide in the jungle.

"She was in a state of severe anemia and appeared to be barely 12 years old," Colonel Eliecer Camacho, the police chief in the region bordering Venezuela, told AFP.

The girl, however, who has a cousin in the ranks of the FARC, said in the hospital that she was recruited four years ago at the age of 14.

The boy's torn body, also painted green, was found in the same place after he detonated an explosive that killed

seven police officers in a passing patrol, Camacho said.

The girl told authorities they had been put through an "inhuman training over eight months," the colonel said.

"They were required to walk for hours without shoes to harden the soles of their feet. They were denied food and water so they could endure more," he said.

According to the police commander, the guerrillas recruit minors by trying to convince them to join voluntarily, but once in they are forced to stay.

The rebel group rejects peace talks under the terms set by the government, which insists that they first halt the recruitment of minors, cease "terrorist" attacks and free all their hostages.

Nearly 3,000 minors registered as part of a demobilization of armed groups between 2002 and 2011, but there could be as many as 10,000 more minors in rebel ranks, according to a 2009 UN report.

After the Norte de Santander incident, Colombian authorities announced their intention to denounce the FARC in international humanitarian organizations.

The Colombian Institute of Family Wellbeing, which is responsible for protecting the rights of children, has also protested against "the use of children for suicide missions."

US journalist to help scandal-hit Vatican clean up its image

ROME (AFP) - A scandal-hit Vatican, struggling to combat years of bad press, has hired American Fox News correspondent Greg Burke to modernise a communications strategy tainted by serious blunders in the past.

Burke told AFP he has been hired "primarily as a strategist" to "simplify the Vatican's message (and) improve communications," though Vatican watchers have said his appointment fails to tackle the real issues within the Holy See.

One of his main tasks, Burke says, will be "avoiding too many surprises."

Such embarrassing and damaging "surprises" have in-

cluded Pope Benedict XVI's move in 2009 to welcome back into the fold a Holocaust-denying bishop, and the Vatican's controversial reaction to the child abuse scandal gripping the Church.

Benedict has seemingly been let down time and again by advisers who appear to have failed to warn him about taking back the ill-favoured Bishop Richard Williamson or over an inflammatory speech he gave in Regensburg on Muslims.

"The Williamson thing could have been handled better. The pope admitted the strategy in that case did not work," Burke, a member of

the conservative Catholic Opus Dei movement, said.

Vatican expert Marco Politi told AFP Burke's appointment could help the Holy See work on having a more transparent relationship with the public, but said it was side-stepping the real issues at its core.

"The so-called errors in communication are in truth problems with the method of governance," he said.

Burke -- appointed to the post by Bertone -- said he does not think his assignment is linked to either the "Vatileaks" drama or another scandal surrounding the Vatican's bank, which has been freshly mired in allegations of corruption.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ecuadorans support Julian Assange



ECUADOR, Quito : Activists participate in a demonstration in support of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange political asylum in front of the Foreign Ministry in Quito on June 26, 2012. Ecuador's President Rafael Correa, who has often been at odds with Washington, has said he is considering Assange's asylum request and studying the WikiLeaks founder's claim that he could be sentenced to death in the United States. The Australian, 40, said he is prepared to go to Sweden to face questioning over sex assault claims, but fears Stockholm will turn him over to the US where he could face espionage and conspiracy charges over revelations by WikiLeaks. The WikiLeaks website enraged Washington by publishing a flood of secret US information about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 250,000 classified US diplomatic cables. (AFP PHOTO)

FBI: Raids on prostitution rings recover 80 children

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Nearly 80 children have been recovered as a result of raids on prostitution rings across the United States over the weekend, the Federal Bureau of Investigations said.

Dubbed "Operation Cross Country," the raids were carried out from Friday to Sunday and involved more than 8,500 local and federal police in 57 cities, the FBI said in a statement Monday.

The FBI said the raids led to the recovery of 79 children,

and resulted in the arrests of 104 people on a variety of prostitution charges.

"These insidious crimes are occurring in American cities and the victims are American kids," said Ernie Allen, president and CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Arrests were made in Baltimore, Chicago, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Phoenix, Seattle, San Francisco and Washington.

In a first, Pentagon celebrates gay pride

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Pentagon for the first time celebrated gay pride in a modest but emotional ceremony yesterday, less than a year after the US military lifted a ban on homosexuals serving openly in uniform.

In a packed hall, a top defense official said the repeal of the prohibition has gone ahead without any major problems and a panel of gay service members spoke about how much had changed after years of having to hide their sexual orientation under the former "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law.

A year ago, Marine Captain Matthew Phelps said he was "in the closet," taking pains to conceal his homosexuality.

"I was at a point in my career that if anyone had found out that I was gay... I could have lost my job," he told the audience.

This month, the Marine officer was invited to a reception at the White House honoring gay pride.

The Defense Department's top legal counsel, Jeh Johnson, said the end of the ban had freed troops in uniform from the "burden" of hiding their sexual orientation.

"For those service members who are gay and lesbian, we lifted a real and personal burden from their shoulders. They no longer have to live a lie in the military," Johnson said.

Since the ban on openly gay troops was rescinded in Sep-



AFP photo shows a man wearing a shirt that reads "gay is the new straight" during the New York City Gay Pride March on June 24, 2012 in New York City

tember, he said, "within each service, there have been isolated incidents, but almost no issues or negative effects associated with repeal on unit cohesion, including within war fighting units."

Unlike typical gay pride festivities in major cities, the Pentagon's event was an understated affair, with a panel discussion instead of parades, concerts or outlandish costumes.

Johnson noted that other civilian government agencies have held gay pride events for years, including the Central Intelligence Agency, which organized its first event 12 years ago.

Even with the ban gone, Johnson said same-sex couples suffered some "inequalities" in

military benefits, because of federal laws designed to deny recognition to gay unions. The Pentagon was working to ensure benefits were managed in a "fair" manner, he added.

The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, adopted in 1993, required gay troops to keep their sexual orientation quiet or else face dismissal, and also prohibited service members from asking fellow soldiers if they were gay.

Former president Bill Clinton came into office hoping to lift the ban entirely but after facing resistance from military leaders and lawmakers, he had to settle for the messy compromise.

An estimated 14,000 troops were expelled from the force under the law.

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Cannabis in Hydroponics Grow Room



An opium poppy field

VIENNA (AFP) - Some 27 million people worldwide are problem drug users, with almost one percent every year dying from narcotics abuse, while cannabis remains the most popular drug, a UN report showed Tuesday.

"Heroin, cocaine and other drugs continue to kill around 200,000 people a year, shatter-

ing families and bringing misery to thousands of other people, insecurity and the spread of HIV," director Yuri Fedotov said as he presented the 2012 World Drug Report of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Global production and use of illegal drugs remained relatively stable last year, the report found.

ing a major supplier and domestic production in Europe is also rising, the UNODC said.

Opium production in Afghanistan, the world's biggest producer with 90 percent of the global share, meanwhile jumped by 61 percent in 2011 to 5,800 tonnes from 3,600 tonnes in 2010, when the crop was hit by disease.

In Southeast Asia as well, cultivating opium was increasingly popular, expanding by 16 percent in 2011, with Myanmar still the second largest producer behind Afghanistan.

Only a small share of this made it to Europe and North America, where opiate use was stable or dropping. Instead, 70 percent of users were in Africa and Asia, the report found.

Cocaine use too was stagnating or falling in Europe and North America, but this was offset by growing use in South America and Australia, as well as parts of Africa and Asia.

Synthetic drugs -- including methamphetamine and "ecstasy" pills -- were meanwhile on the increase, with a recent hike in seizures pointing to the drugs' continued popularity, the UNODC said.

Some 230 million people, or five percent of the global population aged 15-64, used illegal drugs at least once in 2010, the last year for which data was available, the report found.

As growth in use shifts in-



Cocaine bags in a CocaineLab

However, this masked shifts in trafficking and consumption that were "significant and also worrying... because they are proof of the resilience and adaptability of illicit drug suppliers and users," the UNODC warned.

Cannabis remained the most widely used drug with up to 224 million users worldwide, although production figures were hard to obtain, the agency said.

Europe was the biggest market for cannabis resin, most of it coming from Morocco, although Afghanistan is becom-

creasingly from developed to developing countries, UNODC director Yuri Fedotov appealed for more help to newly-affected nations, ill-equipped to fight this problem.

Drug use has also been spilling more into countries along trafficking routes, such as Iran or parts of western and central Africa, the office noted.

Besides the health effects, the UNODC estimated the financial cost of drug use at about \$200 billion to \$250 billion (160 billion-200 billion euros) to cover drug treatment worldwide, a far cry from the sums currently provided.



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German court outlaws religious circumcision

BERLIN (AFP) - Circumcising young boys on religious grounds causes grievous bodily harm, a German court ruled Tuesday in a landmark decision that the Jewish community said trampled on parents' religious rights.

The case was brought against a doctor in Cologne who had circumcised a four-year-old Muslim boy on his parents' wishes.

A few days after the operation, his parents took him to hospital as he was bleeding heavily. Prosecutors then charged the doctor with griev-

ous bodily harm.

The doctor was acquitted by a lower court that judged he had acted within the law as the parents had given their consent.

Thousands of young boys are circumcised every year in Germany, especially in the country's large Jewish and Muslim communities.

The court specified that circumcision was not illegal if carried out for medical reasons.

The WHO has estimated that nearly one in three males under 15 is circumcised worldwide.



PUERTO AYORA, Ecuador : Lonesome George, the last known individual of the Pinta Island Tortoise, subspecies *Geochelone nigra abingdoni*, walks around Galapagos National Park's breeding center in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz island, in the Galapagos Archipelago, on April 19, 2012. Lonesome George died and left the world one subspecies poorer. The only remaining Pinta Island giant tortoise and celebrated symbol of conservation efforts in the Galapagos Islands passed away Sunday with no known offspring, the Galapagos National Park in Ecuador said in a statement. Estimated to be more than 100 years old, the creature's cause of death remains unclear and a necropsy is planned.

AFP PHOTO

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Sci-Tech

Teens deceiving parents on Internet use: McAfee survey

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Teenagers are increasingly deceiving their parents about where they go and what they do online, security technology firm McAfee said Monday in its latest survey on young people and the Internet.

In a statement, McAfee said nearly half of the American parents it surveyed thought their adolescents told them everything they did online, and that they felt in control when monitoring their youngsters' online conduct.

"However, the study reveals that teens deceiving their parents are on the rise, as over 70 percent of teens have found ways to avoid parental monitoring," it said.

That compares to 2010 when 45 percent of teens said they had hidden their online behavior from a parent, said McAfee, which bundles parental controls into its anti-virus software programs for home use.

Clearing the history of an Internet browser, or closing or minimizing a browser when a parent walked into the room, were the most popular ways of fooling mom and dad, McAfee said.

Others included hiding or deleting instant messages or

videos, lying or omitting details about online activities, using a computer that parents don't check, and using an Internet-enabled mobile device such as a smartphone.

"This is a generation that is so comfortable with technology that they are surpassing their parents in understanding and getting away with behaviors that are putting their safety at risk," said McAfee online safety expert Stanley Holditch in the statement.

McAfee went online itself to interview 1,004 young people aged 13 to 17, and 1,013 parents of teenagers, in the United States between May 4 and May 29. The overall margin of error was 2.2 percentage points.

The survey also indicated that 43 percent of teenagers had accessed simulated violence online, 36 percent sexual nude content or pornography online, "despite their awareness of online dangers."

It also found that 15 percent of teens had hacked a social network account, 16 percent acknowledged looking up school test answers on their smartphones, and 20 percent ended friendships as a result of a social network account.

Too much math is tough for scientists: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Artistic types are not the only ones whose eyes glaze over when confronted with too many numbers, according to research out Monday that suggests scientists, too, find lots of equations hard to read.

The study by researchers at the University of Bristol analyzed nearly 650 studies on ecology and evolution published in three leading journals in 1998.

They found that papers with more equations in the text were less likely to be cited in future papers, signaling that scientists may not be paying attention to research that is jammed with mathematical details.

Studies with the most math in them were referenced 50 percent less often than those with little or no math, said the study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, a US peer-reviewed journal.

"This is an important issue," said Tim Fawcett, lead author of the study titled: "Heavy use of equations impedes communication among biologists."

"Nearly all areas of science rely on close links between mathematical theory and experimental work," he said.

"If new theories are presented in a way that is off-putting to other scientists, then no one will perform the crucial experiments needed to test those theories. This presents a barrier to scientific progress."

Co-author Andrew Higginson suggested that adding a bit of verbal flourish might help experts get their point across.

"Scientists need to think more carefully about how they present the mathematical details of their work," he said.

"The ideal solution is not to hide the maths away, but to add more explanatory text to take the reader carefully through the assumptions and implications of the theory."



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Newton is definitely a well behaved young man



Photo above is of the 2012 graduation class of the Fundacion Cuidami & Siñami kindergarten. And standing in front, second from left is 3-year-old Newton Sambo, one of the students of Fundacion Cuidami & Siñami. He was selected as the Best Behaved student of the class of 2012. Newton is always attentive to his school mates who he considers his brothers and sisters. He also helps his aunts with their chores and always shares with his siblings. Newton is the son of Assistant Account Manager of Plus Accountants Angeline Albertus and a dear friend of The Morning News. Needless to say that Angeline is a very proud Mama, her dedication to her children certainly pays off. Congratulations Newton, keep on behaving during your new school year.



THE ANIMAL RELIEF FOUNDATION

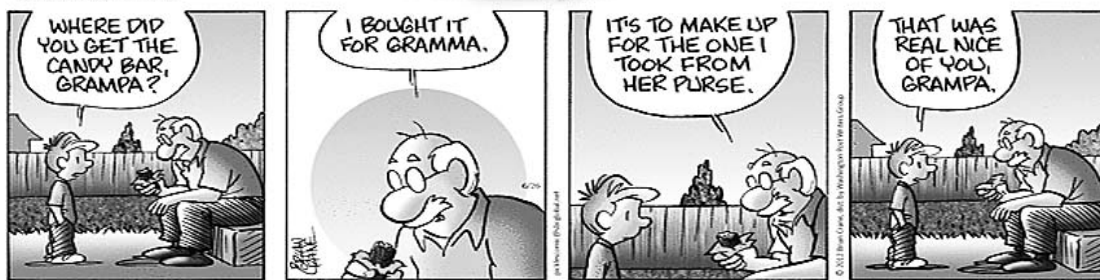
ARUBA

HELP !!! - Animal Relief Foundation Aruba (ARF) is looking for volunteers to transport three pups to the US. ARF needs volunteers to take two of the pups to Boston and one to Newark. They are very sweet and cute. Can you help us? Then call Kathy at 562-4453 THANK YOU!

COMICS



PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD



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ACROSS

1. "Birds ____ feather..." (2 wds.)
4. Over
8. Doghouse sound
11. Decorative vase
12. Be bold
13. Egyptian queen, informally
14. Focused
16. Used the doorbell
17. "Horton ____ a Who!"
18. Commercial transaction
20. Summer, in France
22. Drink like a dog (2 wds.)
25. Shopping spots
29. Levi's fabric
31. Gasp cause
32. Third letter
34. ____ creek without a paddle (2 wds.)
35. Golfer's problem
38. Mortified
41. Flurries
43. Family member
44. Viking
46. ____ beef
50. Hook's right hand
53. Love affairs
55. Guns the motor
56. Company

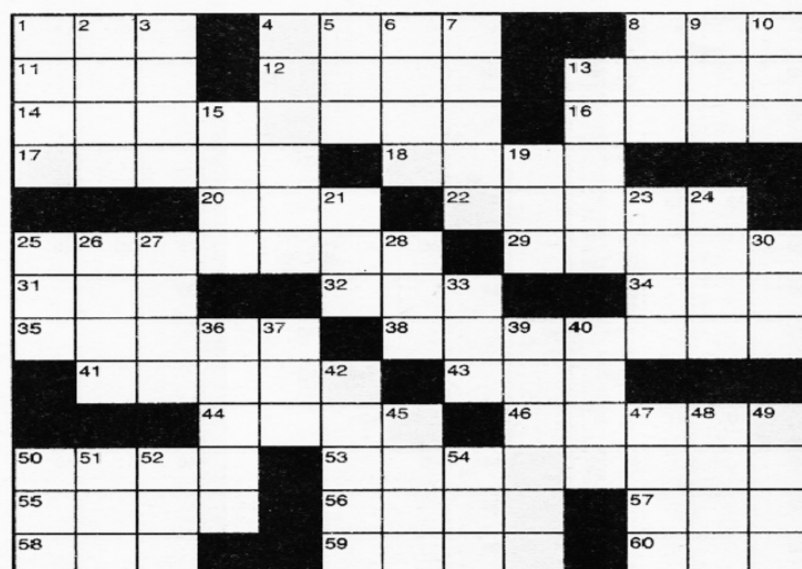
57. GOP mem.
58. Lager alternative
59. "Auld Lang ____"
60. Dorothy's aunt and others

DOWN

1. "That hurts!"
2. Release
3. Actress Paquin
4. "____ Fideles"
5. Pitch
6. Crude metals
7. Gas or brake
8. ____ king (2 wds.)
9. "____ and Stimpy"
10. Driving danger
13. ____ suzette
15. Hard journey
19. Boy
21. List-ending abbr.
23. "E pluribus ____"
24. What Santa smokes
25. Mothers
26. Leather-making tools
27. Harness part
28. Red, e.g.
30. ____ scientist
33. Lisper's problem

letter

36. Nat King and Natalie
37. Ram's dam
39. Journalist Greeley
40. In due time
42. Fathers
45. Sly
47. Development tract
48. Appear
49. Cooking measurements (abbr.)
50. Spanish "Mrs."
51. Crooner Tormé
52. Eden female
54. Sirs



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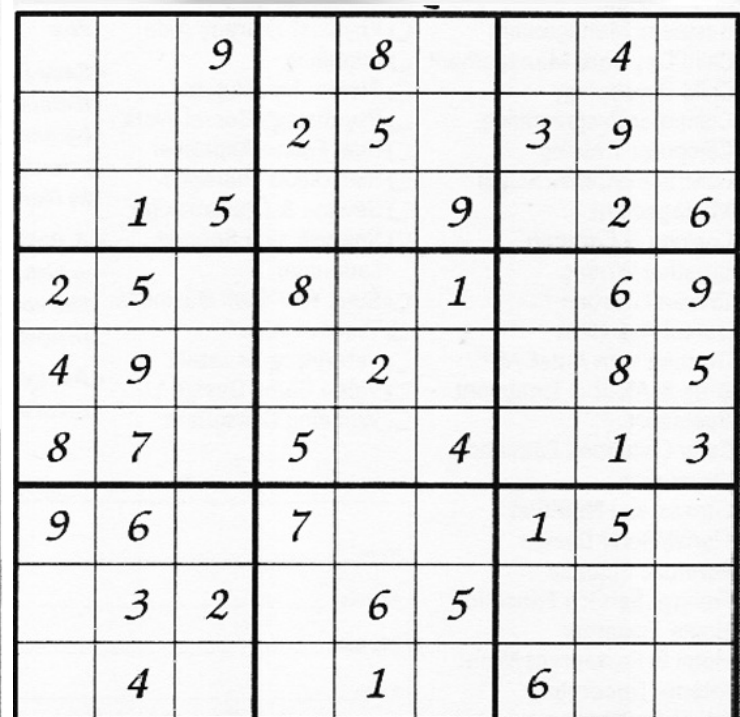
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

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8	4	6	5	9	7	2	1	3
7	5	1	2	4	8	9	6	3
1	2	7	6	5	9	4	8	3
5	8	4	1	2	9	1	6	7
6	9	7	1	4	8	5	2	3
9	2	8	6	7	5	1	4	3
1	6	5	4	2	7	9	8	3
4	7	5	9	8	1	6	2	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Finance

Big Spanish merger approved for Caixabank

BARCELONA (AFP) - Shareholders in Spanish lender CaixaBank yesterday approved its takeover of Banca Civica, which will make it Spain's biggest bank by assets, the company said.

"This operation will make the bank the leader in the Spanish market, with more than 13 million customers and assets worth 342 billion euros of which 231 billion are in credits," CaixaBank said in a statement.

The takeover, first announced in March and approved by shareholders at a meeting in Barcelona where the bank is based, will put CaixaBank ahead of the giants Santander and BBVA in the value of its assets.

"The incorporation of Banca Civica will require no public aid and will be at no cost to the rest of the financial sector," CaixaBank added.

The announcement came at a time of high tension over Spain's banks, which have been undergoing a costly restructuring after being se-

verely weakened by the collapse of a property boom in 2008.

The government on Monday formally requested rescue funds from its eurozone partners to secure the banking sector.

Concern over the banks in Spain, the eurozone's fourth-biggest economy, has pushed the country's borrowing costs up to dangerous levels and economists warn Spain may be heading for a broader sovereign bailout.

Spain has not declared the exact amount it will borrow to stabilise its banking sector, but independent auditors have estimated it will need up to 62 billion euros out of the 100 billion the eurozone has offered.

According to the auditors' studies presented by the government last week, CaixaBank, Santander and BBVA are strong enough not to need rescue funds.

Former customers of smaller savings banks that have been swallowed up in three years of restructuring

say they lost savings when they were talked into converting them to shares which have since lost value.

A small group of demonstrators rallied outside the CaixaBank shareholder meeting yesterday to protest against how these savers had been treated, waving signs with messages such as "Bankers, robbers, give us back our savings".

US presses Europe ahead of crunch Summit

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States pressed European Union leaders for more steps to stabilize the economy at their summit this week and called for further action to stimulate growth in the euro area.

"We believe the Europeans have the capacity to resolve this crisis," White House spokesman Jay Carney said ahead of the EU leaders summit on Thursday and Friday in Brussels.

"We continue to believe that Europe and eurozone leaders have taken a number of very important steps, and need to take more steps towards stabilizing the situation and resolving the crisis," Carney said.

The US also remains convinced that "Europe needs to take action to address the need for growth, the need for job creation," Carney added.

Carney said Washington understands that resolving the deep problems behind the eurozone crisis is an evolving process, and that no one meeting can address them all.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

GPA MOTTO RMS
OAK AVOID EAU
PLASTERED TON
AINT EYE
TENDS TRENDS
HMO SASH ATOP
REV EMAIL ISA
ORES ITSA OER
BYLAWS SENSE
TOE AJAR
PEI LIMEGREEN
AVE CLEAN MRI

Drug firm Roche closes US site, slashing 1,000 jobs

GENEVA (AFP) - Swiss drug giant Roche said yesterday it will close a site in the US state of New Jersey with the loss of 1,000 jobs as it streamlines its research and development activities.

"Roche's site in Nutley, NJ in the United States will be closed and research and development activities will be consolidated at the existing sites in Germany and Switzerland, focusing on oncology, virology, metabolism and neuroscience," said the company in a statement.

The Basel-based group employs 20,800 people in the US and said it would continue to "strongly invest" in research and development there through its Genentech organisation

based in San Francisco.

Roche said it was transferring its Nutley activities to its Swiss locations in Basel and Schlieren, and to Penzberg in Germany.

"In its 80-year old history, our Nutley site has made significant contributions to Roche's success," said Roche chief executive Severin Schwan.

"We will do everything we can to find socially responsible solutions for the employees affected by these changes."

The company said the reorganisation would enable it to keep research and development costs "stable" despite a strong increase in the number of clinical development projects in the last 18 months.



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Dinner

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Central Bank of Aruba releases the Consumer Confidence Survey for 2012

ORANJESTAD -- During the period of June 25 through July 8, 2012 the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) will conduct the Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS) for the second quarter. The CCS consists of 21 short multiple choice questions relating to the Aruban population's perception of and expectation on the state of the Aruban economy and on their spending habit.

The CCS provides the CBA with valuable information used for its macro-economic analyses and forecasts, and helps as well in determining the sentiments of Aruban consumers, which furthers the CBA's understanding of economic developments. The CCS may also aid policy makers when determining economic and financial policies and actions. This is the second CCS for 2012 and its results will be compared with the first survey to analyze the change in the population's sentiments.

During this period, the CBA will hire a group of 5 interviewers to survey a total of 400 respondents in order to gather

the important data. Interviewers will be stationed at several strategic locations on the island, such as the civil registry office and the post office, and will carry an identification badge and a notification letter as proof that they are working on behalf of the CBA. Due to the simplicity of the questions (e.g., would you say that you (and your household) are better off or worse off financially than you were 6 months ago?), the interview should not take more than 10 minutes to complete.

Given the importance of the CCS for Aruba, the CBA calls upon the Aruban public to fully cooperate with this survey. The interviewed persons can rest assure that the CBA will treat the information gathered in this survey with the highest level of confidentiality, and the results will be published in an aggregated form only. For further information please contact Ms. Elmelynn Croes (tel. 5252230; e-mail e.croes@cbaruba.org) or Mr. Jonathan Upegui (tel. 5252215; e-mail j.uegui@cbaruba.org) of the Research Department.



Current as of:	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
06/26/2012				
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.71	1.73	1.75
Britain	GBP	2.71	2.76	2.82
Switzerland	CHF	184.81	185.53	186.33
Netherlands	EUR	220.18	222.19	224.42
Sweden	SEK	24.20	24.92	25.72
Denmark	DKK	28.92	29.64	30.44
Norway	NOK	28.66	29.38	30.18
Japan	JPY	222.47	224.50	226.75
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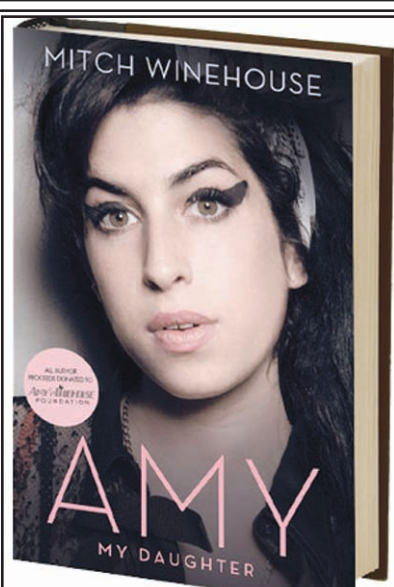


GROUP SALES (297) 561-1090



The Spice Girls were reunited on Tuesday for the launch of Viva Forever!, a West End musical inspired by the pop group's chart-topping hits of the late 1990s. Together for the first time since their 2008 reunion tour, Victoria Beckham, Geri Halliwell, Emma Bunton, Melanie Chisholm and Melanie Brown helped unveil the show at the central London hotel which featured in the video for the quintet's 1996 debut single Wannabe. The show itself is due to open at the Piccadilly Theatre in London's West End on December 11. (AFP- File Dec 2007 photo)

NEW YORK (AFP) - The father of late British singer Amy Winehouse details his daughter's cycle of drug and alcohol abuse in a new memoir released yesterday in New York. Mitch Winehouse's "Amy, My Daughter" includes "exclusive, never-before-seen photos and paints an open and honest portrait of one of the greatest musical talents of our time," said publisher HarperCollins. The US book launch comes ahead of its July 5 publication in Britain, where the "Back to Black" star was found dead at her north London flat in July 2011. Investigators said Winehouse, 27, had died of alcohol poisoning. In the 320-page biography, Mitch Winehouse "offers an inside view of Amy's life as she lived it, putting to rest once and for all the controversies that have long surrounded her," said HarperCollins.



'Brave' ousts 'Madagascar' from top of US box office

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - "Brave," Pixar's 3-D fairytale about a Scottish princess trying to rescue her mother from an evil witch, soared to the top of the North American box office in its opening week, according to industry figures Monday.

With \$66.7 million in ticket sales, it easily knocked another animated hit, "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted," which had only \$20.2 million in sales, into second place.

Movie tracker Exhibitor Relations said "Brave" was the 13th film from the Walt Disney Studios' animation unit to open at the top of the box office.

In third was the debut of "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter," a slasher flick casting America's 16th president as a



crusader not just against slavery, but blood-sucking monsters as well. It earned \$16.5 million.

Ridley Scott's sci-fi adventure "Prometheus" came in in fourth place with \$10 million in ticket sales.

"Snow White and the

Huntsman" starring Charlize Theron, was fifth with a little over \$8 million, the box office tracker said.

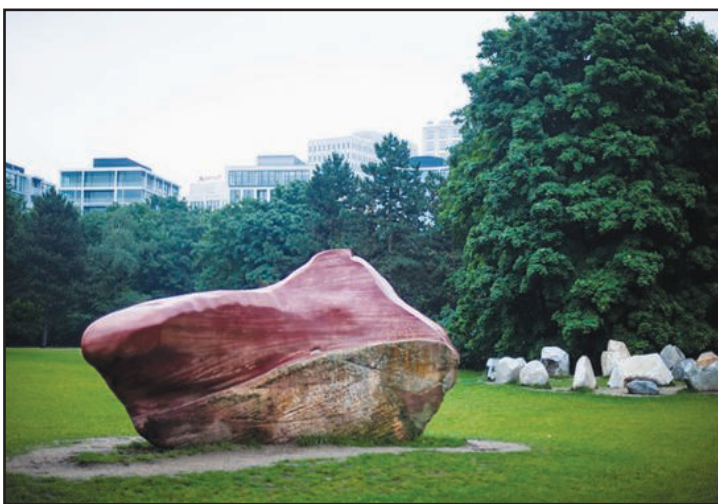
Warner Brothers' "Rock of Ages" starring Tom Cruise, nabbed sixth place, pocketing \$8 million dollars.

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Uggie, the canine star of the Oscar-winning film "The Artist," Monday added his paw print alongside other Hollywood greats in a ceremony marking his official retirement. The Jack Russell Terrier added his mark to the famous forecourt at Grauman's Chinese Theater, where other stars of the silver screen such as Marilyn Monroe and Clark Gable have been immortalized. The trick-performing, life-saving pup barked excitedly at the crowds, and wowed the crowds who chorused "he's so cute." "Everybody says I'm a great trainer, I don't think so, he's just a great dog," said his trainer Omar Von Muller, announcing that Uggie, born in 2002, was hanging up his dog collar for good. Now Uggie is getting too old for the rigors of the movie set, and is suffering from a neurological disease. "On behalf of the city of LA I salute his career (and declare) June 25th 2012 Uggie Day of the city of LA," said Tom LaBonge, a local council member. Uggie posed for pictures after the ceremony with other doggie stars "Lassie" and "Rin Tin Tin," after a little bit of inappropriate public sniffing first. A biography is being written of Uggie's real-life stories include touring with a dog talent show, roles in movies including "Water for Elephants" and "The Artist" and his signing as a spokesdog for Nintendo.





Germany mediates talks on sacred rock row with Venezuela



Kueka stone in Berlin's central Tiergarten park

BERLIN (AFP) - The German government said it was mediating talks for an "amicable" end to a row over the return of a rock considered sacred by an indigenous community in Venezuela from a Berlin park.

The foreign ministry said it had put forward proposals in discussions with the parties in the protracted dispute which had led to progress "in important factual issues" but that further talks were needed.

he dispute centres on a 30-tonne rock that the indigenous Pemon people call Kueka (meaning grandmother), which they claim was given without their consent to a German artist 14 years ago by a former Venezuelan president.

Last week the indigenous community in Venezuela staged a protest outside the German embassy in Caracas to demand the rock be repatriated from its current spot as part of an outdoor art exhibition in Berlin's central Tiergarten park.

The foreign ministry "is trying in talks with all parties to mediate an amicable solution", spokesman Andreas Peschke told a regular government news briefing.

"In order to facilitate a possible handing back of the stone and at the same time

protect the interests of the artist, the foreign ministry has made relevant proposals for an amicable agreement," he said.

The rock had been in the Canaima National Park, home to the Pemon, in south-eastern Venezuela until 1998, when it was given by ex-president Rafael Caldera to German artist Wolfgang von Schwarzenfeld.

The sandstone rock was transported to Germany where it was sculptured, polished and displayed as part of a project for peace called Global Stone in the Tiergarten.

Von Schwarzenfeld told AFP that Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez had been calling for the rock to be returned for six years based on false claims such as that the stone had been stolen.

"There are all the documents... which show that it is a present from the people of Venezuela to the German people. I am not the owner of this rock, I can't return it," he said.

The German ambassador in Caracas said last week he would pass on to officials in Berlin the rock's spiritual interest for the indigenous community and that it had always been considered a gift from Venezuela.

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



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EURO 2012 - POLAND - UKRAINE

June 8 - July 1



Patience the key to beating Spain, says Bento



Cristiano Ronaldo took a 1-0 lead Portugal to use the crossing of Moutinho, the ball to beat the 79th minute Cech.

DONETSK (AFP) - Portugal coach Paulo Bento has urged his players to be patient in their Euro 2012 semi-final with Spain today, but says his side will not allow themselves to be dominated.

Defending champions Spain have largely had their own way at the tournament so far, averaging 67.5 percent of possession in their games to date, and they encountered little resistance in the 2-0 quarter-final win over France.

Under Bento, Portugal have developed an effective counter-attacking style, but the 43-year-old coach says his players will not be content to sit and defend when they tackle Spain in Donetsk.

"Of course there are going to be moments in the game when we can link up and go forward," he said in Tuesday's

pre-game press conference.

"We want possession of the ball but we are playing against a team that has played better than all the other teams.

"It's going to be about patience. We know what we have to do. We have to put pressure on our opponents in the right areas of the pitch.

"Our aim is not to defend all the time. You can't do that against the world and European champions. We are aware that it's going to be difficult but they also know that we can cause them problems.

"It was very easy to get motivated because we're in the semi-finals. There can't be a more beautiful opportunity than the one we have tomorrow.

"We could reach the second final in our history (after losing to Greece at Euro 2004)

and that's what we're conscious of and that's why we've worked so hard to get here.

"We won't have any anxiety. We're aware of our responsibilities to the Portuguese people and we hope to prolong our participation in the tournament."

He added: "We'll need to show great balance for 90 minutes. When we have chances to counter-attack, we'll have to take them.

"But we'll have to wait for our chances. There will be moments when they're on top, and moments when we're on top.

"We need to play in the areas of the pitch where we're least vulnerable. But I'm very confident because we've played with a lot of heart and courage."

Portugal prevailed 4-0 when the sides last met, in a friendly

match in Lisbon that took place in November 2010 -- four months after Spain won the World Cup, and two months after Bento took over as coach from Carlos Queiroz.

It was Spain's heaviest defeat since 1963, but Bento believes it will count for nothing when the teams resume hostilities at Donbass Arena.

"A lot of players that played against them two years ago are in this squad, but it will be a totally different game," he said.

"The history is different and the two teams on the pitch will be different. We know it'll be very, very difficult to repeat this result, but we believe that we can win against Spain."

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Nadal, Murray win as Aussies suffer Wimbledon slump



Serena Williams of the USA lines up a shot during her Ladies' Singles

LONDON (AFP) - Two-time winner Rafael Nadal and British hope Andy Murray reached the Wimbledon second round on Tuesday, but Australia's men slumped to their country's worst performance since 1938.

Nadal, fresh from a record-breaking seventh French Open win, enjoyed a 7-6 (7/0), 6-2, 6-3 victory over Brazil's Thomaz Bellucci despite having trailed 4-0 in the first set.

Fourth seed Murray, a semi-finalist for the last three years, had the last laugh as he silenced Nikolay Davydenko's taunts with an easy 6-1, 6-1 6-4 win.

The Russian had claimed players laughed at the Briton,

believing he regularly exaggerates his injuries.

Serena Williams, the 2002, 2003, 2009 and 2010 champion, reached the second round with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Barbora Zahlavova Strycova of the Czech Republic.

The American sixth seed triumphed on the same Court Two where sister Venus had on Monday suffered her first opening round loss at Wimbledon since 1997.

"It always has some sort of an effect," said Serena of her sister's loss. "I always want to play even better if she's out of the tournament."

Defending champion Petra Kvitova overcame early nerves to progress 6-4, 6-4 against Akgul Amanmuradova of Uzbekistan, but the 22-year-old Czech fourth seed did it the hard way, having trailed 3-0 and 4-1 in the first set.

World number two Victoria Azarenka eased through, seeing off America's Irina Falconi 6-1, 6-4.

Lleyton Hewitt's 10th anniversary party of his 2002 title was gatecrashed by French fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga who cruised to a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 win, handing the Australian his earliest exit at the All England Club since 2003.

His loss also meant that there will be no Australian man in the second round for the first time since 1938 after compatriots Bernard Tomic, a quarter-finalist last year and seeded 20, Matthew Ebden and Marinko Matosevic were also beaten.

It is a depressing statistic for a country which has won 21 Wimbledon men's titles.

The injury-plagued Hewitt, 31, whose ranking has plummeted to 202 after undergoing radical surgery to cut bone out of his big toe, refused to entertain any notion that the problems of Australian tennis mirrored a decline in the country's sporting prowess in gen-

eral.

"I reckon we'll go all right at the Olympics," he said.

American hopes, which were so badly bruised by the opening day exits of five-time champion Venus and big-serving John Isner, were earlier boosted by Mardy Fish and Bryan Baker.

Fish made a winning return to tennis in his first match following an operation to address a frightening heart scare.

The world number 12 beat Spain's Ruben Ramirez-Hidalgo 7-6 (7/3), 7-5 7-6 (7/1), but later felt unwell and pulled out of a mandatory post-match press conference.

Baker, who lost six years of his career to an assortment of injuries and underwent five operations, clinched a first ever win at Wimbledon, beating Portugal's Rui Machado 7-6 (7/2), 6-4, 6-0.

Juan Martin Del Potro, the ninth seeded Argentine and 2009 US Open winner, also went through, beating Dutchman Robin Haase 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7/3), 7-5.

Rain brought an early end to the second day with three-time runner-up Andy Roddick a set and a break up on Britain's Jamie Baker.

Jerry Sandusky's Son, Matt, Speaks On Abuse



As Jerry Sandusky sits in a Pennsylvania jail cell awaiting sentencing on 45 charges of sexually abusing 10 boys over a 15-year period, one of his adopted children has come forward to say that he too was abused by the former Penn State football coach. Now 33, Matt Sandusky has told authorities that he was sexually abused between the ages of 8 and 15.

On Tuesday, NBC's "Today" aired a video excerpt of Matt Sandusky's interview with police. In that excerpt, he described showering with the former assistant coach and trying to avoid being molested in bed.

"If you were pretending you

were asleep and you were touched or rubbed in some way, you could just act like you were rolling over in your sleep so you could change positions," he said.

Matt met Jerry Sandusky through the Second Mile and told police on the tape he was off-and-on molested from ages eight to 15. Like many other Second Mile boys, he began staying overnight at the Sandusky household. Jerry

and Dottie Sandusky later became his foster parents and adopted him at age 18.

Matt told police he would try to escape from the Sandusky house, one night fleeing barefoot to hide in his grandfather's basement. He also said he tried to commit suicide.

Previously, the younger Sandusky testified on behalf of his father before the grand jury investigating allegations of child sexual abuse. But last week, while the jury was sequestered and weighing the charges against his father, his lawyers announced that Matt Sandusky had been abused and had talked to investigators about the abuse.

Aruba Blue Village proud to host CISC competitors



Aruba Blue Village Hotel and Apartments is proud to be part of this year's major international swimming competition – The Caribbean Island Swimming Championship (CISC) 2012. The said event is being participated by 500 different swimming athletes coming from 17 countries in the Caribbean region.

One hundred eighty (180) of these players are staying in Blue Village Hotel and these are the groups of Suriname, Puerto Rico, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, US Virgin Islands, Trinidad & Tobago and Grenada. The championship comprised of three disciplines, being competitive, synchronized swimming and open water swimming in Piscina Olimpico Roly Bislik in Savaneta from June 21 to June 28, 2012.

To all the groups staying with us, good luck and go for the gold!!!!!!

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Aruba's Abigail de Veer and Kyra Hoevertsz are proud gold winners



The "Caribbean Islands Swimming Championships" (CISC) has been taking place here on Aruba as the first try outs for the synchronized swimming competitors for CISC.

The competitions were fierce as each participant had to demonstrate their best water dance routine.

To make the competition even more interesting, the organizers invited two countries, Venezuela and Canada, to come to Aruba with their best teams.

At the end of the evening the race was so close that at one point they could not decide who really earned the gold medal. Nonetheless, on Saturday at noon, the points in the technical figures decided

which competitor had earned the first three posts.

In the 12 years and under category, Abigail de Veer had won the gold medal. In the 13-15 years category Kyra Hoevertsz won the gold medal for Aruba and was named the Champion.

Erica Jaramillo and Nikita Pablo won the Silver medal. On Monday, yesterday, the synchronization competition continued at the Poly Bisslik Olympic Pool in Savaneta at 8:30 in the evening with the duet tryouts. They invited the entire community to come out and support our young athletes. They defended their title in the Caribbean Championship for the 12th consecutive year.



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